

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10:00 A.M.



**Christ the Redeemer**  
**ANGLICAN CHIMES**



(478) 953-3844

2815 Highway 41, N., Ft. Valley, GA 31030

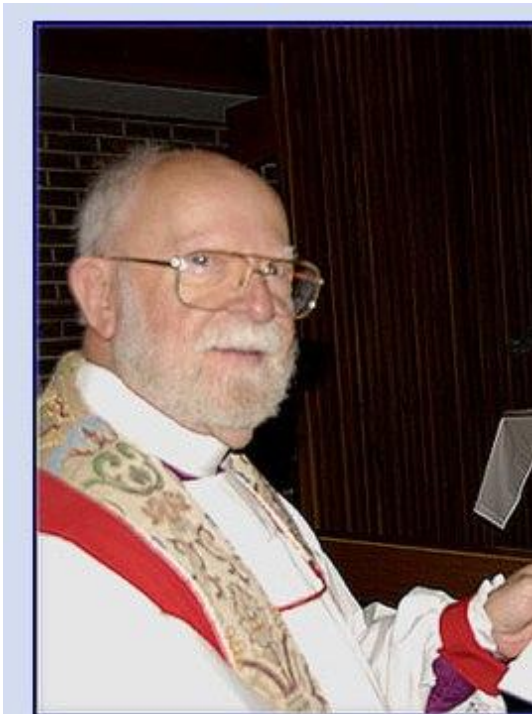
September 2010

*Serving Warner Robins, Perry, Byron and Ft. Valley*

## PARISH RETREAT WITH BISHOP BREWER

### September 17 - 18

The Right Reverend Peter Brewer will conduct a Retreat for Christ the Redeemer parishioners on Friday and Saturday, September 17-18. Reverend Brewer is our Suffragan Bishop and also the Vicar of St. John's Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. He will be moving as Vicar to All Souls Church, Asheboro, North Carolina on October 1.



Bishop Brewer is a native of Arkansas where he completed his Bachelor of Arts in Economics at the University of Central Arkansas. After completing his theological education at Holy Trinity College and Seminary, he entered the priesthood in 1989 following a career in business and the military, retiring from the Air National Guard as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1978.

He was Rector of Saint Nicholas Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia from 1989 to 1995. From 1995 to 2006, he was both a hospital on-call chaplain and a hospice chaplain in the Atlanta area. He was appointed Vicar of St. John's Greensboro, in 2006

He was elected Suffragan Bishop of our diocese in 2003 and was installed into that office in January 2004. Bishop Brewer will retire as our Suffragan at the end of this year. Bishop Brewer is an Oblate in the Franciscan Order of our Saviour and is a member of the Society of Mary. He is married to the former Lilianne Gratton of Montreal, Quebec. They currently reside in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The retreat will begin on Friday at 6:30 pm with a supper and teaching. On Saturday, a breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m. followed by more teaching. Lunch will be served at noon and the final teaching will go until 2:00 pm.

## From Father Paul.....

Our parish has a great fall season planned beginning with our Retreat this September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> presented by Bishop Peter Brewer from Greensboro, NC. This spiritual “pause” is a chance to come together – to pray, to listen and to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. The Bishop comes from a parish similar to ours and will help us strengthen our “togetherness.”

On October 7<sup>th</sup> I will begin our Inquirer Classes to explain more about our Anglican history and faith. Classes will be held every Thursday at 7:00 pm except Holy Thursday.

Then plan on hearing an update on the health of our parish at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 24. Reports will be held immediately following the 10:00 am service.

Put these dates on your calendars and plan to strengthen your faith and our parish.



## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LAY READERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MINISTER</u>	<u>READER</u>
Sept. 5	Jim Gray	Linda Gerlock
Sept. 12	Moses Alexander	Angela Wallace
Sept. 19	Ed Leigh	Pat Patterson
Sept. 26	Frank Pfohl	Katherine Pfohl

## TWO OF GOD'S BLESSINGS AT OUR FRONT DOOR ----

...Our lovely meditation garden



....and the warm greetings of Ken Cooper



## JESUS – THE VINE

*I am the vine, you are the branches, Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. – John 15:5*

It is difficult sometimes to determine the higher form of intelligence - is it plant or is it animal? Biologically, certainly, all of this has been decided, but when one examines the facts on a practical basis, things do not seem so straightforward. A plant appears so peaceful, so cooperative, so sheltering. It knows how to feed itself, and it knows how to feed the world at the same time. Cooperation is the rule of life within its borders. Leaves collect sunlight and water, stems transport necessary materials to the branches, and the roots provide soil nutrients and water. Photosynthesis occurs and, voila, the plant sustains its life with a little assist from nature. It is a great partner to itself and to all other life forms.



**H**umans, on the other hand, appear to have a tad bit more difficulty cooperating with their bodies. Sometimes our bodies tell us we are tired, but we refuse to rest. There is always one more task we have to accomplish. Sometimes our bodies tell us we are hungry, but we refuse to eat. We need to lose five pounds. Sometimes our bodies tell us we are satiated, but we won't stop eating. How much could one more bite of chocolate pie hurt: Sometimes our bodies tell us that we need to exercise, but we don't get moving. Who wants to get up and get going? We often don't cooperate well with the basic needs of our screaming bodies.

**H**umans have trouble in partnership with others as well. In business, our mode is competition. We desire the most, the best, the fastest without the least concern for the other guy. It's a dog eat dog world out there. We have to do what it takes to survive. In personal relationships, our need for control and dominance continues to haunt us. In marriages and families we want certain things done our way. The dishwasher, for example, may need to be filled on my way, the right way, y way. The dinner needs to be prepared one way, the right way, my way. The children need to be raised one way, the right way, my way, And so it goes. There is the constant desire for the individual will to prevail. Plants, of course, also vie for personal space and sunlight, but not so they might control. They simply want to live.

**I**t is not surprising then that Jesus Christ selects a plant metaphor to describe his relationship with us. He keeps it simple. Plant parts work together, supporting the various components so that life may be abundant. There is cooperation, there is teamwork, and there is true partnership. No one plant duty is less than or greater than another as far as the leaves and the stems and the branches are concerned. There is only one amazing living phenomenon which supports itself simply on sunlight, soil nutrients, and water – an entity that is entirely grounded and supported by the vine. Yet a plant produces unparalleled beauty, the yummiest of fruits, and that essential element for human life – oxygen.

Jesus is the vine. We are the branches. Such a simple metaphor. It's easy. We can do nothing without God. Nothing. Any achievement we accomplish, any talent we possess; any body we inhabit comes from God and God alone. And, because we are all branches from One vine, we are all called to work together in relationship, assisting others in our abundance, receiving help in our deficits. Christ provides all we need for true life. We just have to collect our sunlight and use our respective gifts. We have to bend our wills and our lives to the will of God with the knowledge that without God we will die a spiritual death, as surely as a branch that has been chopped from the vine dies an actual death. Yet the vine will not force the branch to do anything. There is no coercion, only opportunity. Unlike a plant, it is our choice to grow, to remain attached.

The comparison Jesus draws regarding himself is not to just any plant. Rather, it is to the grapevine, the plant that will become the sacrament of the blood of Christ – an essential component of life eternal. In response, we must behave like branches. We must care for ourselves and for others to the best of our abilities. We must seek less personal control and listen to our bodies, to our friends, and to our families, cooperating with them in the spirit of partnership. We must reach out as strongly and as boldly as our branch-selves can, helping others less fortunate than we, whether in North Carolina or Mexico. We must reach for the sunlight that warms us and the nutrients that sustain us, and we must hang on tightly to the vine. For the vine is the vine of life, the One, True God. It is the vine that will be with us and sustain us always, perfect in relationship, perfect in partnership, perfect in love.

-- *The Rev. Kitty Davis, St. James, Wilmington, North Carolina*

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### **LOT'S WIFE:**

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once, while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

### **GOOD SAMARITAN:**

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

### **DID NOAH FISH?**

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of Fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'



## Christian Education Corner

We want to remind everyone that our new year begins Sunday September 12, 2001. In an effort to continue supporting the growth of the students, we will separate into 3 classes this year. Angela Leigh has graciously agreed to teach the younger elementary group. I will teach the upper elementary/middle school group, while Chris Moran agreed to lead the high school group. While all of our groups are small, there are sufficient developmental differences to warrant separate classes. Betsy VanderWerf and Elisa Ponsell have offered to act as substitute teachers if needed.

Once again, we will be using the Godly Play (GP) curriculum for the younger elementary children and will use the standard Godly Play lessons along with the enrichment lessons offered to further challenge the middle school students.

Our classes will begin 15 minutes following the end of our Holy Communion service (approximately 11:45) and conclude about 12:30. This should allow all students and teachers time to fill a plate and come to the classroom to eat.

Ed Leigh will lead an adult education class following the service as well.

Thank you for all your support,

Andrea Selby



# Seen around the church.....



Retired Father Bob Burgreen and wife Lauren with Linda McCraw and Lolly Keck.



Muscadine pickers Bunny Nobles, Joe Short and Bunny's daughter Cyrena.



"Lucky" our black cat.



and everyone – especially the little ones - enjoying the food and fellowship after our service.



## Our Future Thrift Shop – and New Storage Shed

